

the following June. In October a small recurrence in the cicatrix had to be removed. Since that time the patient had remained well, and was able to do her housework. She wore a Brun's chimney canula, and spoke with a distinct falsetto voice.

He reported, further, that his first case died of pneumonia thirty months after the operation, and there had been no recurrence—the patient had been able to resume fully his professional labors as a dentist; that a man fifty-five years of age, on whom he had operated, died one year later from a local recurrence; and another, aged sixty-five years, died two years after operation from an inoperable gland carcinoma of the neck.

DR. VINCENZO OMBONI relates in detail (*Annali Univ. di med. e Chir.*, Aug. 1888) a case of extirpation of the larynx, with the first wing of the trachea, a portion of the pharynx, and the cervical and a portion of the mediastinal portion of the œsophagus of a woman forty-six years of age with epithelioma. The operation occupied four and three-quarters hours; but was practically bloodless, owing to the use of about 150 ligatures and the liberal use of the thermo-cautery. The trachea was divided with the thermo-cautery in four-fifths of its extent, its lower portion secured to the inferior margin of the cutaneous wound, and the posterior fifth was then severed with the thermo-cautery. The patient did well for a time and wore an artificial larynx; but was attacked with erysipelas on the thirtieth day, and died eleven days later.

TUBERCULOSIS OF THE NASAL MUCOUS MEMBRANE.

DR. HAJEK reports (*Wien. klin. Woch.*, Dec. 6, 1888) the following instance:

A gold-beater, aged thirty years, applied to Schnitzler with bloody discharge from the nose. An ulcer was seen in the cartilaginous septum, and a tumor in the naso-pharyngeal space. Hajek removed the growth with the snare, and found bacilli in an ulceration at its summit. He then cut large sections from the ulcerated tissue and found bacilli in their deeper portions. The parts were treated by scraping, followed by frictions with lactic acid. Complete cicatrization in five weeks. Return of patient four weeks later with a tumor the size of a hazel-nut obstructing the right nasal passage almost completely. Excision and frictions with lactic acid again successful. Several weeks later appeared some gray nodules, which were found to contain bacilli. This continuous recurrence renders the case of grave prognosis.

DISEASES OF THE NOSE AND ITS ACCESSORY CAVITIES AS A CAUSE OF RESTRICTED FIELDS OF VISION.

DR. ZIEM (*Berlin. klin. Woch.*, Sept. 10, 1888) refers to some instances of diminished field of vision due to intranasal diseases and to suppuration of the sphenoid cells, and of the maxillary sinus; one of the latter being reported in minute detail. He does not refer this condition to reflex influence from the nasal obstruction as many other observers have done, but to diminished aspiration of blood to the lungs and consequent disturbance in the venous and lymphatic circulation in the head and in the cerebrum. He is of the opinion that many other symptoms attributed to nasal reflex are to be similarly accounted for. He calls attention to glaucoma and to some other

ocular affections from the same cause, which are submitted to useless operations in consequence of a want of appreciation of their true pathology. The anatomical conditions upon which Ziem bases his opinions are fully described. Among the few cases detailed is one of glaucoma cured by trephining the antrum and evacuating the pus.

ON ESTIMATING THE SENSE OF SMELL.

DR. H. ZWAARDEMAKER, of Utrecht, describes and figures (*Berlin. klin. Woch.*, Nov. 19, 1888) a little apparatus for this purpose. It consists essentially of a small glass tube with a nozzle. This tube is covered with a tube of vulcanized rubber, or of ammoniated gutta-percha. As the latter is drawn away from the former its odor is appreciable. Having estimated the proper distance in a normal subject, the amount of ammonia is estimated by means of a scale scratched in the glass tubing.

DERMATOLOGY.

UNDER THE CHARGE OF

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THE QUESTION OF THE CONTAGIOUSNESS OF ALOPECIA AREATA.

EICHHOFF's attention was directed (*Monatshefte für praktische Dermatologie*, No. 20, 1888) to this question by the comparative increase in a period of some months of his cases of alopecia areata. While previously and subsequently his experience embraced four to six cases yearly, between April, 1884, and March, 1886—a period of two years—thirty-six cases came under his observation. An investigation of these cases led to the following:

1. In a given time there was a remarkable increase in alopecia areata cases, three to four times as many as the usual average.

2. About thirty per cent. were traceable to contagion (from barber-shop), and thirty per cent. were apparently of a common, and, therefore, probably contagious origin.

3. About nine per cent. could be attributed to neurotic causes.

4. In thirty-one per cent. no cause could be found.

The author concludes that alopecia areata may have different causes, two of which, the parasitic and the tropho-neurotic, may be said to be now known and generally admitted.